642 decision of the people was binding for the State organs.

641 642 The new Constitution also guaranteed freedom to the people, namely freedom of speech, press, the media of mass communication, assembly, organization and religion.

692 642 The judiciary was entirely independent in its functions, although the judges were appointed by the President. It consisted of the State Court of Justice, which was the supreme legal authority, and of the lower courts; the Court of Appeal, the Regional Courts, and the District Magistrates.

642 The Constitution of Soviet-occupied Estonia was passed in an illegally elected Riigikogu on 25 August 1941. This Riigikogu was renamed then the Supreme Soviet of the Estonian SSR, which elected Prime Minister J. Vares as

[SEE cat. 116, -317- p. 314 -- Analyst]

645 are at the present time over 20 Ministers in the Estonian SSR. In independent Estonia the average number of Ministers was ten. This parliamentary order is built up to create the impression in the outside world that the U. S. S. R. is a democratic state, but behind the scenes rules the Communist Party, which dictates in details what the Supreme Soviet has to legislate and the Council of Ministers to carry out.

692 The judicial organization is built up as follows: the highest organ is the Supreme Court of the Estonian SSR, subordinated to which are the District Courts, Special Courts and People's Courts. The judiciary is not an impartial and independent organization where the rights of the people find protection; it, too, is subordinate to the Communist Party and to the secret police.

[Estonian Constitution as of November 1947]

633 under the Chairman of the Executive Committee and, in addition, in accordance with the specific features of the city's industry and its suburban and municipal economy,

a Department of Local Industry and
a Department of Land.

Art. 70. The Departments of the city Soviets of Working People's Deputies are subordinate in their activities both to the respective city Soviets of Working People's Deputies and their Executive Committees and to the corresponding Departments of the district Soviets of Working People's Deputies.

Art. 71. The Departments of the Tallin, Tartu, Narva, Pyarnu and Paldiski City Soviets of Working People's Deputies are subordinate in their activities both to the Soviets of Working People's Deputies of these cities and their Executive Committees and to the corresponding Ministry of the Estonian SSR directly.

631 Art. 72. On the expiration of the terms of office of the Soviets of Working People's Deputies, their executive and administrative organs retain their powers until the newly elected Soviets shall have formed new executive and administrative organs.

Chapter VI. The Budget of the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic

652 Art. 73. The state budget of the Estonian SSR is drawn up by the Council [645] of Ministers of the Estonian SSR and submitted by it to the Supreme Soviet of the Estonian SSR for its approval.

Upon its approval by the Supreme Soviet of the Estonian SSR the 646 state budget of the Estonian SSR is published for general information.

Art. 74. The Supreme Soviet of the Estonian SSR elects a Budget Commission, which reports its conclusions on the state budget of the Estonian SSR to the Supreme Soviet.

Art. 75. The report on the fulfilment of the state budget of the Estonian SSR is approved by the Supreme Soviet of the Estonian SSR and published for general information.

631 Art. 76. The budgets of the district, city, volost, settlement and village [Russ2] Soviets include the revenues from the local economy, deductions from the state revenues collected within their territory and likewise receipts from local taxes and imposts in amounts fixed by the laws of the USSR and the Estonian SSR.

Chapter VII. The Courts and the Procurator's Office

692 Art. 77. In the Estonian SSR justice is administered by the Supreme Court of the Estonian SSR, the District Courts, the Special Courts of the USSR established by decision of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, and the People's Courts.

[Estonian constitution as of November, 1947]

693 Art. 78. In all Courts cases are tried with the participation of people's assessors, except in cases specially provided for by law.

692 Art. 79. The Supreme Court of the Estonian SSR is the highest judicial organ of the Estonian SSR. The Supreme Court of the Estonian SSR is charged with the supervision of the judicial activities of all the judicial organs of the Estonian SSR.

646 Art. 80. The Supreme Court of the Estonian SSR is elected by the Supreme Soviet of the Estonian SSR for a term of five years.

Art. 81. District Courts are elected by the district Soviets of Working People's Deputies for a term of five years.

Art. 82. People's Courts are elected by the citizens of the cities and volosts on the basis of universal, direct and equal suffrage by secret ballot for a term of three years.

695 Art. 83. Judicial proceedings in the Estonian SSR are conducted in the Estonian and Russian languages, persons not knowing these languages being [523] guaranteed the opportunity of fully acquainting themselves with the material of the case through an interpreter and likewise the right to use their own language in court.

Art. 84. In all Courts of the Estonian SSR cases are heard in public, unless otherwise provided for by law, and the accused is guaranteed the right to defence.

693 Art. 85. Judges are independent and subject only to the law.

Art. 86. Supreme supervisory power to ensure the strict observance of law by all Ministries and institutions subordinated to them, as well as by officials and citizens within the territory of the Estonian SSR generally, is exercised by the Procurator-General of the USSR directly and also through the Procurator of the Estonian SSR.

Art. 87. The Procurator of the Estonian SSR is appointed by the Procurator-General of the USSR for a term of five years.

Art. 88. District and city procurators are appointed by the Procurator of the Estonian SSR subject to the approval of the Procurator-General of the USSR for a term of five years.

Art. 89. The organs of the Procurator's Office perform their functions independently of any local organs whatsoever, being subordinate solely to the Procurator-General of the USSR.

Chapter VIII. Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens

641 Art. 90. Citizens of the Estonian SSR have the right to work, that is,
461 the right to guaranteed employment and payment for their work in accordance with its quantity and quality.